

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

2 WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

3 Case No. CIV-14-665-F

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5 RICHARD GLOSSIP, et al.,

6 Plaintiffs,

7 vs.

8 RANDY CHANDLER, et al.,

9 Defendants.

10 -----

11  
12 REMOTE VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF

13 DR. JOSEPH ANTOGNINI

14 January 28, 2021

15 10:03 a.m. EST

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22  
23 Reported by:

24 Debra Stevens, RPR-CRR

25

January 28, 2021

10:03 a.m. EST

Remote Videotaped Deposition of  
Dr. Joseph Antognini, held at the  
above date and time, before Debra  
Stevens, RPR/CRR and Notary Public of  
the State of New York.

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## E X A M I N A T I O N S

WITNESS

PAGE

DR. JOSEPH ANTOGNINI

By Mr. Stronski

9

## E X H I B I T S

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1  
2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning.  
3 We are going on the record at  
4 10:03 a.m. on January 28, 2021.  
5 Please note that audio and video  
6 recording will continue to take place  
7 unless all parties agree to go off the  
8 record. This is media unit 1 of the  
9 video-recorded remote virtual  
10 deposition of Dr. Joseph F. Antognini  
11 in the matter of Richard Glossip, et  
12 al., versus Randy Chandler, et al.,  
13 filed in the United States District  
14 Court, Western District of Oklahoma,  
15 Civil Action No. CIV-14-665-F.

16 My name is Lee Bowry from the  
17 firm of Winter Reporting, a Veritext  
18 company, and I am the videographer.  
19 The court reporter is Debra Stevens,  
20 also with Winter Reporting. I am not  
21 authorized to administer an oath. I  
22 am not related to any party in this  
23 action, nor am I financially  
24 interested in the outcome.

25 Counsel attending remotely will

1  
2 now state their appearances and  
3 affiliations for the record. If there  
4 are any objections to proceeding  
5 please state them at the time of your  
6 appearance, beginning with the  
7 noticing attorney.

8 MR. STRONSKI: This is Jim  
9 Stronski. I am from the law firm  
10 Crowell & Moring and we represent  
11 Plaintiffs in this case. With me is  
12 Pilar Stillwater, also with the firm  
13 Crowell & Moring; and other co-counsel  
14 will introduce themselves.

15 MR. LIEBERMAN: Good morning.  
16 This is Michael Lieberman from the  
17 Federal Public Defender Capital Habeas  
18 Unit in the Western District of  
19 Oklahoma. Also appearing but not on  
20 screen, Alex Kursman, K-U-R-S-M-A-N,  
21 who is also an assistant federal  
22 defender. He is with the Community  
23 Defender Office in the Eastern  
24 District of Pennsylvania; and Kim  
25 Stout, S-T-O-U-T, who is also an

1  
2 assistant federal public defender with  
3 the Federal Public Defender in  
4 District of Arizona.

5 MS. KOLODINSKY: This is Lynne  
6 Kolodinsky. I recently changed my  
7 name. It is K-O-L-O-D-I-N-S-K-Y.

8 MS. STILLWATER: Were you able  
9 to hear me?

10 MR. MANSINGHANI: This is Mithun  
11 Mansinghani for the Defendants from  
12 the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney  
13 General.

14 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Will the  
15 reporter please swear the witness.

16 COURT REPORTER: If you would  
17 state your full name?

18 THE WITNESS: Joseph Francis  
19 Antognini.

20 Whereupon,

21 DR. JOSEPH F. ANTOGNINI,  
22 having been first duly sworn/affirmed,  
23 was examined and testified as follows:

24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We may  
25 proceed.



1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 EXAMINATION BY

3 MR. STRONSKI:

4 Q. I am Jim Stronski. I introduced  
5 myself before. Good morning,  
6 Dr. Antognini.

7 A. Good morning.

8 Q. Are you aware of any study that  
9 used midazolam to induce and maintain  
10 general anesthesia in the face of surgical  
11 stimuli?

12 A. I presume you are asking about  
13 this in humans. Is that correct?

14 Q. Correct.

15 A. And when you -- could you repeat  
16 the question? I want to make sure I  
17 understood. Induce and maintain?

18 Q. Yes. I am interested in any  
19 study that reliably used midazolam as the  
20 only drug to induce and maintain general  
21 anesthesia for purposes of surgery.

22 A. Well, surgery -- let me just  
23 address the surgery part. Surgery --  
24 there are different types of surgery,  
25 different types of surgical stimuli and

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 noxious stimuli. Certainly midazolam has  
3 been used as a sole drug to induce  
4 anesthesia for a procedure, as I have  
5 mentioned in my report.

6 (Reporter interruption.)

7 A. As I mentioned in my report,  
8 there are -- I did cite studies where  
9 midazolam has been used to induce  
10 anesthesia in preparation for endotracheal  
11 intubation, which is very stimulating.  
12 And that, as I said, is in my report.

13 One of the challenges of using  
14 midazolam to maintain anesthesia would be  
15 that you need a very large dose to be able  
16 to achieve that, so large that nobody has  
17 actually attempted to do that for a  
18 prolonged surgical procedure.

19 So, if we are talking about a  
20 very short procedure, there are studies, I  
21 think, that indicate that, that you could  
22 use midazolam for painful procedures,  
23 otherwise painful procedures. But for  
24 prolonged procedures, no, there are no  
25 studies in humans where midazolam has been

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 used alone for the purposes I mentioned  
3 because of the massive dose that would  
4 likely need to be administered.

5 Q. But in humans, to use your  
6 words, such a massive dose has not been  
7 studied clinically. Correct?

8 A. That is correct, to my  
9 knowledge.

10 Q. So, you have no basis in  
11 science, in data, to opine that midazolam  
12 at any dose would maintain anesthesia.  
13 Correct?

14 A. I do not have any -- again,  
15 there are no data that I am aware of, any  
16 published studies where midazolam has been  
17 used by itself for a prolonged surgical  
18 procedure. By that I mean for hours and  
19 hours. So, that is correct. And that is  
20 because the dose that would be required or  
21 to even study that would be so large that  
22 it wouldn't be ethically or clinically  
23 worthwhile to pursue.

24 Q. So you rely upon the Gehrke  
25 reference. You mentioned endotracheal

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 intubation. That was your example. Am I  
3 right in remembering that?

4 A. That particular study, you mean?

5 Q. Yes. I asked you if there are  
6 studies where midazolam was used in humans  
7 to induce and maintain anesthesia for  
8 surgery, and the example I think you gave  
9 me was endotracheal intubation. Is that  
10 right?

11 A. That is correct. There is more  
12 than the Gehrke study, though, that I have  
13 cited.

14 Q. Are there any other  
15 procedures -- how long does the  
16 endotracheal intubation take? What is the  
17 range of time it takes?

18 A. The actual intubation involves  
19 what is called laryngoscopy, basically  
20 where you actually take a metal tongue  
21 blade, as I tell patients, and insert it  
22 into the mouth, open up the airway. And  
23 then you actually place the endotracheal  
24 tube. All that might take on average a  
25 minute, a minute and a half.

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2 But it's not just the procedure  
3 itself that is stimulating. You have that  
4 large plastic tube into the trachea or the  
5 windpipe, and it's there after you are  
6 done, so it's still stimulating. In my  
7 report, I talked about the Miyake study,  
8 where they had given midazolam for  
9 induction. They also gave other drugs.  
10 Both drugs wore off very quickly and those  
11 patients were basically lying there with  
12 this endotracheal tube for about  
13 60 minutes, and that's stimulating. The  
14 authors, as I recall, talk about that.

15 So, it's not just the procedure  
16 itself. It's actually the tube that is  
17 there. Since we all know, have  
18 experienced aspiration, where something  
19 went down the wrong way and you have  
20 coughed violently, well, that is what that  
21 tube is like, and it's there basically  
22 past the procedure itself. So, that also  
23 is stimulating.

24 Q. How long does the tube stay  
25 there?

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2 A. It depends on the particular  
3 procedure. It could be there for days  
4 after surgery. We can leave the tube in  
5 or it can come out after surgery,  
6 30 minutes after, an hour, two hours.  
7 Depends on the length of the surgery.

8 Q. So there is no cutting done with  
9 the endotracheal intubation, right? That  
10 is not the intent of it; correct?

11 A. No. There is no cutting done,  
12 but it is certainly more stimulating in  
13 terms of anesthetic requirements than a  
14 skin incision.

15 Q. So, is it your testimony in  
16 Gehrke and in the other Miyake reference  
17 that you know that those patients were  
18 receiving no other drugs?

19 A. Well, both the Miyake study and  
20 the Gehrke study that I have cited -- so  
21 the Gehrke study, there was a subgroup of  
22 patients that did not receive other drugs,  
23 at least according to their report. Some  
24 of them did receive opiates. But the  
25 conclusion was that midazolam was still a

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2 good drug to use in the study, even the  
3 study of midazolam by itself. If they  
4 recognized midazolam by itself was not,  
5 adequate, they would have mentioned that,  
6 I would think, and they did not. The  
7 other --

8 Q. Did they say it was adequate?

9 A. That is my recollection. We can  
10 certainly pull up the reference, but that  
11 is --

12 Q. We'll look at it.

13 A. That's my recollection of it.

14 As far as the Miyake study is  
15 concerned, those patients received an  
16 opiate called remifentanil with the  
17 induction, and then the remifentanil was  
18 discontinued right afterwards. And that  
19 is a drug that -- its effects dissipate  
20 very, very quickly. After five, ten  
21 minutes or so or something like that,  
22 maybe shorter, the effects are gone.

23 So, that's one of the reasons  
24 why, if you look at how these patients  
25 behaved in terms of their

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 electroencephalogram, it's pretty clear  
3 that 20, 30 minutes out or more, the  
4 remifentanyl is gone and that basically  
5 these patients are doing okay.

6 Also in the discussion section,  
7 as I recall -- we will have to pull it up.  
8 In the discussion section of the Miyake  
9 study, they talked about essentially a  
10 preliminary study, and I believe there  
11 they did not use remifentanyl. So  
12 again -- and they got more or less the  
13 same result. So, that leads me to believe  
14 and opine that midazolam is sufficient to  
15 anesthetize patients for the endotracheal  
16 intubation and for the continued placement  
17 or presence of that endotracheal tube.

18 Q. In these cases, you said that  
19 the actual intubation takes a minute or  
20 so. Did you say that? A minute, minute  
21 and a half?

22 A. Yes. It can be shorter if it's  
23 an easy airway and you are skilled, or it  
24 can be a little longer. You know,  
25 somewhere around there is my guess.



1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 Q. Could be 30 seconds?

3 A. Could be 30 seconds, yes.

4 Q. Then it is just there for  
5 however long and then it's removed at some  
6 point. Is that fair?

7 A. That is correct, yes.

8 Q. And it could be there, you said,  
9 for days?

10 A. If the patient, after surgery,  
11 needs to be in an intensive care unit and  
12 needs a respirator or ventilator, yes, it  
13 could be there for days.

14 Q. So is it your testimony that  
15 these patients in the Miyake and Gehrke  
16 study had their tubes in for an extended  
17 period of time without any other  
18 medication but for midazolam?

19 A. Well, for the Miyake study that  
20 is correct. They stopped the study  
21 basically at 60 minutes. After that they  
22 basically continued on with surgery and  
23 they gave more anesthetic at that point.  
24 I don't recall exactly what they used.  
25 For the Gehrke study, I don't recall what

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 happened afterwards.

3 But in general, patients that  
4 have endotracheal tube in place in the  
5 intensive care unit, they require some  
6 type of sedation or anesthesia or  
7 something, some drug, because it is very  
8 stimulating. Virtually all of the  
9 hospitals that I am aware of have some  
10 type of protocol to provide some types of  
11 drugs, including midazolam. That's a very  
12 common drug to be used as an infusion in  
13 intensive care unit so that these patients  
14 will tolerate that endotracheal tube. It  
15 is pretty unusual for a patient to not  
16 require some type of drug, medication such  
17 as midazolam or something like that --  
18 propofol is sometimes used -- to ensure  
19 that they can tolerate that tube.

20 Q. Are you familiar with the  
21 continuum of depth of sedation definitions  
22 of general anesthesia and levels of  
23 sedation, analgesia that have been  
24 approved by the ASA Committee of  
25 Delegates?

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milliequivalent level, which is your experience in administering potassium chloride, the low range of that experience, if you compare it to the amount administered in the Ohio lethal injection protocol, that amount is 24 times greater --

MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to

form -- sorry.

Q. Do you have any knowledge of any studies that would characterize the nature of the kind of pain that results administering 24 times the amount of a drug that is known to cause pain at 10 milligrams milliequivalents?

MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to

form.

A. There are no studies that I am aware of that would quantify that. And my experience with potassium chloride has been in the operating room primarily. Again, I have had patients in the recovery room -- that is not the term we use anymore but that is what most people will

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 recognize -- and then also in the ICU.

3 Most of my own personal  
4 professional experience with potassium  
5 chloride has been in the operating room.  
6 Of course, you have to infuse it slowly  
7 because if you give it too fast you can  
8 have a cardiac arrest. That is the main  
9 reason why it is infused slowly.

10 But in that setting, in my  
11 experience, in anesthetized patients there  
12 is no indication that the patients are  
13 experiencing any type of response to it  
14 because I don't recall there being  
15 increases in the heart rate or blood  
16 pressure or anything else when potassium  
17 is being infused.

18 Q. How many times do you recall  
19 infusing potassium during anesthesia?

20 A. I can't give you a number. It  
21 is going to be maybe, you know, a dozen,  
22 two dozen times maybe. I just don't --  
23 you are talking about a 30-year career  
24 more or less. I can't remember.

25 Q. So, it is not something

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2 controlled.

3 Q. Similarly, the osmolarity of  
4 injectable drugs is adjusted so that you  
5 don't have a hyper or hypo osmolar  
6 substance in the blood or in the veins.  
7 Correct?

8 A. That is often done, yes. There  
9 is adjustment of the osmolarity.

10 Q. And that is because it is well  
11 understood that either can cause damage  
12 and pain on injection. Correct?

13 MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to  
14 form.

15 A. I don't know that people have  
16 systematically studied the amount of pain  
17 that occurs with alterations in  
18 osmolarity. So, that is a little bit -- I  
19 am not aware of anything -- that  
20 information may exist. I just don't know  
21 about it.

22 Q. Okay. But it is done because it  
23 can damage tissue, whether or not that  
24 causes -- the pain it causes we'll put  
25 aside, but it damages the tissue.

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2 Correct?

3 A. The experience over many years  
4 is that veins can be damaged by drugs that  
5 are going through them. So, often that is  
6 damage that occurs over the course of a  
7 long time, not just from one injection but  
8 over the course of many hours to days.  
9 So, it is also time dependent.

10 Q. And the potassium chloride also,  
11 at 240 milliequivalents, will depolarize  
12 the cells and trigger the nerve fibers in  
13 the veins. Correct?

14 A. That is my understanding of that  
15 area. I don't have any more specifics as  
16 to what the mechanism would be.

17 Q. And that would be experienced as  
18 severe pain unless you put the brain stem  
19 to sleep and had a state of general  
20 anesthesia. Correct?

21 MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to  
22 form.

23 A. The presence of a drug, an  
24 anesthetic drug or a drug that affects the  
25 brain will reduce the experience of

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 somebody who's receiving potassium  
3 chloride. And I have opined that  
4 midazolam is such a drug, especially at  
5 the dose used in the protocol, that it  
6 would drastically alter any experience of  
7 the usual pain that we think about that  
8 would occur from potassium chloride.

9 Q. Is it your opinion that  
10 midazolam puts the brain stem to sleep at  
11 this dose?

12 MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to  
13 form.

14 A. I don't really typically think  
15 of using terminology "putting the brain  
16 stem to sleep." Midazolam will affect  
17 the -- have effects in the brain. It has  
18 effects in the brain stem, it has effects  
19 in the spinal cord. So, that drug,  
20 midazolam, at that dose we are talking  
21 about, 500 milligrams, would drastically  
22 reduce the experience someone would have  
23 when they are awake? The answer is yes.  
24 It would be a combination of effects at  
25 sites.

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 in these dosages, that midazolam and  
3 diazepam are of similar potency?

4 A. In this setting -- let's see  
5 here. Let me just look closely at these  
6 figures and their data here.

7 I have no reason to basically  
8 refute what they have reported. Is it  
9 surprising? Again, I am not surprised in  
10 the sense that, you know, sometimes you  
11 get results that you sometimes don't think  
12 you will. Are these data different from  
13 what others have reported? Possibly. So,  
14 I will just state that I guess.

15 Q. Let's go to the Miyake  
16 reference, which you also relied upon and  
17 mentioned, which is Exhibit 853.

18 (So marked for identification as  
19 Exhibit 853.)

20 Q. If we go to the first page, is  
21 this the Miyake reference that you  
22 referenced earlier?

23 A. Yes, it is.

24 Q. What do you rely upon it for?

25 A. So, this study was performed to



1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 look at effects of midazolam on the  
3 electroencephalogram primarily. And they  
4 were looking at dose response effects.  
5 They gave .2 milligrams per kilogram in  
6 one group and .3 milligrams per kilogram  
7 in the other group.

8 The important thing that I  
9 looked at here is that these patients were  
10 given the midazolam, they were intubated  
11 with muscle relaxant and also an opiate  
12 that was very short lived. The  
13 remifentanyl drug wears off very quickly.

14 So, they were intubated and then  
15 left basically on a ventilator over the  
16 course of 60 minutes. And during that  
17 time where basically all they had  
18 lingering around, so to speak, was the  
19 midazolam, the remifentanyl has worn off  
20 and the patients were paralyzed, to use  
21 the term, a paralytic with vecuronium.  
22 These authors reported no change in the  
23 BIS basically over that 60-minute period.

24 Then in the discussion section,  
25 the second-to-last paragraph, actually

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 starting on the left-hand side, which is  
3 going to be page 392 of their paper, or  
4 443 on the bottom of this exhibit, they  
5 talk about a preliminary study and --

6 Q. Can I just stop you a second.  
7 Where are you talking about the  
8 preliminary study? It's on 39 --

9 A. 392, towards the bottom of the  
10 left-hand column.

11 Q. Okay. Thank you.

12 A. So in this preliminary study  
13 they basically did the same type of study,  
14 although it only went out, it looks like,  
15 to 20 minutes. They used the same doses  
16 and found -- and this is without the  
17 remifentanyl -- and found that the BG  
18 data, the BIS data, did not on average  
19 change over the course of that period,  
20 indicating again that the presence of the  
21 stimulating tube and being on the  
22 ventilator was not sufficient to push the  
23 BIS number up from the low 60's. What that  
24 indicates to me is these patients were not  
25 waking up because the BIS number was

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 staying pretty stable there in the low  
3 60's.

4 Again, the combination of the  
5 earlier data or the data they reported in  
6 the study going out to 60 minutes and then  
7 the preliminary study that they report  
8 here indicates that these patients were  
9 not waking up from the fact that they were  
10 paralyzed, and it was because they had  
11 received that midazolam.

12 Q. I am looking for where the  
13 description of the preliminary study  
14 begins. I am sorry but I am not finding  
15 it. Where would I look? I am on page  
16 392.

17 A. So the paragraph -- scroll down  
18 a little bit. Where it says, just like  
19 any paper will say, "There are several  
20 limitations to our study." So, you go  
21 there and they go through some of the  
22 limitations. And they want to talk about  
23 the fact that they did use remifentanyl  
24 for the intubation period for these  
25 patients. And they were looking at not so

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 much what was happening with the  
3 intubation but what was going to be  
4 happening afterwards in terms of the  
5 patient's electroencephalogram and their  
6 BIS level after that. So, they wanted to  
7 let the remifentanil wear off in their  
8 study, which is what they did.

9 But just to rule that out  
10 altogether, that remifentanil was not a  
11 factor in what they saw, they had a  
12 preliminary study where they didn't use  
13 remifentanil at all and did not see a  
14 change basically -- once the  
15 electroencephalogram was depressed by the  
16 midazolam, it stayed depressed despite the  
17 fact that these patients were on the  
18 ventilator and with an endotracheal tube.

19 Q. Okay, I see where we are now.  
20 So the preliminary study, if you go down  
21 on that page, has an N equals 12, mean age  
22 59 plus or minus 11 years. Is that the  
23 preliminary data?

24 A. Yes, that is what they are  
25 referring to. So then they also state

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 that "these data are comparable with those  
3 reported here with remifentanil,  
4 suggesting that the infusion of  
5 remifentanil unlikely affected the EEG  
6 data."

7 Q. Basically you have 96 plus or  
8 minus 2; 64, et cetera. Those are the BIS  
9 numbers. The plus or minus is some  
10 deviation based on the 12. Is that  
11 correct?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. What is SEF95?

14 A. That is another EEG measure.  
15 That stands for spectral edge frequency  
16 95. It's just another EEG measure.

17 Q. Now, the initial study involved  
18 5,000 patients, right, the study that is  
19 the subject of this paper? Is that  
20 correct?

21 A. No, no. Not nearly 5,000  
22 patients, no.

23 Q. It says, "A prospective cohort  
24 study involving approximately 5,000  
25 consecutive surgical patients revealed --"

1 DR. J. ANTOGNINI

2 oh, that is a different study.

3 So, there are 12 in the  
4 preliminary study. How many subjects are  
5 there in the study that is the subject of  
6 this paper?

7 A. There were 12 subjects in the  
8 group that received 0.2 milligrams per  
9 kilogram of the midazolam and there were  
10 12 subjects in the 0.3-milligram per  
11 kilogram group.

12 Q. That also both received the  
13 remifentanil?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. How much fentanyl -- how much  
16 midazolam did the preliminary group get?

17 A. They state it's 0.2 or  
18 0.3 milligrams per kilogram. N equals 12,  
19 but they don't specify how many of the 12  
20 received 0.2 and how many received 0.3.

21 Q. What are the BIS numbers for the  
22 groups that received remifentanil?

23 A. Those data -- go ahead.

24 Q. Is that in Table 1?

25 A. No. That is going to be in the

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2 Figure 2. I don't know that they report  
3 it anywhere else. Let me just look and  
4 see.

5 So, it looks like the data are  
6 only going to be in Figure 2. I don't  
7 know that they have it anywhere else. But  
8 on the top figure of Figure 2, which says  
9 BIS, that's where you see the BIS numbers  
10 essentially. You can see that they are in  
11 the range of -- you know, in the 60's or  
12 so. It is hard to tell from that graph  
13 exactly where they are, but it is in the  
14 same range as described in the preliminary  
15 group that they studied.

16 But also, you don't really see  
17 an increase in the BIS over time. It is  
18 basically staying pretty flat. It goes  
19 down from 96 and stays in the 60's  
20 basically.

21 Q. So, in this study, were the  
22 subjects subjected to any noxious stimuli  
23 or consciousness check?

24 A. During the period when they had  
25 received midazolam and had been intubated,

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2 for GABA and there is only so much GABA.  
3 And when you exhaust that,  
4 mechanistically, it will have no further  
5 effect. Correct?

6 A. I am not sure I would  
7 characterize that assessment because what  
8 you are talking about basically is you are  
9 extrapolating from what essentially are  
10 some in vitro studies that look at this to  
11 the clinical situation. And it's fraught  
12 to extrapolate from in vitro studies to  
13 this situation.

14 So, for example, in a typical  
15 study if you were looking at a ceiling  
16 effect in vitro, you would give huge  
17 amounts of the drug over a broad  
18 concentration range such that usually you  
19 are giving what we would call log doses,  
20 log, as in L-O-G. That is, you might be  
21 giving one unit of the drug, again in  
22 vitro, and then you do a study where you  
23 give 10 units and then 100 units and then  
24 1,000 units and so forth. And that is how  
25 you can demonstrate an in vitro ceiling



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2 effect.

3 Now, clinically, in this  
4 situation, they have gone from  
5 .2 milligrams per kilogram to  
6 .3 milligrams per kilogram, and that is  
7 only a 50 percent increase basically from  
8 .2 to .3. So, although the authors here  
9 do bring up the possibility -- they don't  
10 mention the ceiling effect herem but they  
11 bring up this possibility of saturation.  
12 You know, they haven't explored fully the  
13 concentration ranges that you would need  
14 to be able to make that kind of  
15 determination.

16 Q. So the authors in this paper  
17 that you are relying upon raise the issue  
18 of midazolam having a ceiling effect. Is  
19 that fair?

20 A. I don't know that they use that  
21 term. They say saturation at the  
22 benzodiazapine receptor site would account  
23 for the small differences on EEG between  
24 patients receiving midazolam .2 and .3.  
25 Now, they say there were some differences.

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2 They were small. However, again, you  
3 would not necessarily be able to detect  
4 changes beyond that if you are just going  
5 from .2 to .3 milligrams per kilogram.

6 Q. What is your basis in science or  
7 your understanding of this mechanism to  
8 opine, if you do, that midazolam, which  
9 has this singular mechanism of action with  
10 GABA and GABA receptors, that if, by  
11 increasing the dose by 50 percent, you get  
12 a small additional effect, that that is  
13 not due to saturation? Do you have a  
14 basis to believe that is not due to  
15 saturation of the benzodiazapine receptor  
16 sites?

17 A. Again, I would say that my basis  
18 for that is simply that we are looking at  
19 what essentially is a dose response  
20 effect. That is, we are giving a dose of  
21 a drug and we are looking at a response.  
22 In this case it is the  
23 electroencephalogram. That might be a  
24 very shallow dose response so that, you  
25 know, it is not flat, it is just very

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2 shallow and you are not going to see much  
3 of a change over that concentration range.

4 Q. And then what is your basis --  
5 do you accept that the benzodiazepines,  
6 including midazolam, have this singular  
7 mechanism of action; that is, the GABA,  
8 that it requires GABA and GABA receptors  
9 to be present?

10 A. Yes. That has been well  
11 documented, so I do accept that as the  
12 mechanism by which these drugs work.

13 Q. Okay. And at 0.2 to 0.3,  
14 increase of 50 percent, which for a  
15 100-kilogram person would be an increase  
16 from 20 to 30 milligrams, they are  
17 reporting a very small change. Correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And what is the change in BIS  
20 that they are reporting?

21 A. I am not sure that they reported  
22 a change in BIS. In their discussion  
23 again they state that -- they said small  
24 changes. I don't know -- or "small  
25 differences." I don't know what they are

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2 referring to there. I am just reading  
3 what they have written there. I have to  
4 look at the paper more closely to figure  
5 out what small differences are they  
6 referring to.

7 Q. But if you look at the  
8 conclusion, it says, "In conclusion, among  
9 our patients the average BIS remained  
10 greater than 60 with midazolam at 0.2 or  
11 0.3 despite the rapid decrease in plasma  
12 concentration."

13 So, there is no difference --  
14 they are not -- there is no notable  
15 difference between .2 and .3 milligrams  
16 per kilogram in their conclusion.  
17 Correct?

18 A. They do not identify any  
19 differences between those two groups if --  
20 sorry. Maybe I misunderstood your  
21 question here.

22 Q. So, what is your basis to  
23 believe that there would be a higher  
24 ceiling if you -- well, let me withdraw  
25 that.

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2 Do you have any basis to believe  
3 that the failure to observe any notable  
4 change in BIS when you increase the dose  
5 from what would be the equivalent of  
6 20 milligrams to 30 milligrams for a  
7 100-kilogram person, that that -- do you  
8 have any basis to believe that that is not  
9 attributable to a saturation of the GABA  
10 and GABA receptors?

11 A. Well, once again, I would say  
12 that a change from .2 to .3 is just not a  
13 large enough difference to be able to  
14 detect what may be some subtle changes  
15 that occur, so that to achieve more of an  
16 effect, more drug would have to be given.  
17 If they had given a much larger dose of  
18 the drug, then that would provide maybe  
19 some more evidence that there is not much  
20 of an effect as you increase the dose.

21 Just going from .2 to .3 in my  
22 mind is not sufficient to state that  
23 absolutely there is no change between .2  
24 and .3. You need a broader dosage range  
25 in my opinion.

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2 Q. You may have misunderstood my  
3 question but you didn't respond to it.

4 My question was, do you have a  
5 reason to believe that the observation  
6 that there was no notable change in BIS  
7 values when you increased the dose from  
8 0.2 to 0.3 milligrams per kilogram, or 20  
9 to 30 milligrams per kilogram -- 20 to  
10 30 milligrams in a 100-kilogram person.  
11 Do you have any reason to believe that  
12 that is not due to saturation of the GABA  
13 and GABA receptors?

14 MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to  
15 form.

16 A. I'd have to think about that.  
17 Is there any other reason that -- again, I  
18 would say the reason is that it has not --  
19 it is not a sufficient dose difference to  
20 be able to rule out basically a subtle  
21 effect. So, I don't know how else to  
22 answer your question.

23 Q. Well, the authors of this paper  
24 opine that saturation at the  
25 benzodiazapine receptor would account for

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2 why I am going to argue with you about  
3 this. I don't know the origin of all this  
4 data, but all I know is there are case  
5 reports of people who received midazolam  
6 by itself and were left unattended and not  
7 monitored and they died. So, there may  
8 not be a dose listed in this table, but  
9 there have been doses of just a few  
10 milligrams or 5 milligrams or maybe  
11 10 milligrams that have killed human  
12 beings. So, there are doses that kill  
13 patients.

14 Q. And what is the mechanism of  
15 death in those cases if you know?

16 A. It's going to be a combination  
17 of unconsciousness, airway obstruction and  
18 decreased breathing, respiratory arrest --

19 Q. Vomiting --

20 A. That's the usual mechanism.

21 Q. Are you aware that midazolam is  
22 understood to be variable in its effect  
23 based on the genetic makeup of the  
24 patient?

25 MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to

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2 form.

3 A. There are pharmacokinetic  
4 differences basically among individuals  
5 for a variety of different drugs, and that  
6 holds true for a drug like midazolam as  
7 far as I am aware. But as you get into  
8 larger and larger doses, you begin to  
9 collapse, so to speak, that difference.  
10 That is, you still achieve the same end  
11 point; you just have to give more drugs to  
12 some of these individuals.

13 Q. But how is the difference  
14 explained if you know? Is it based on the  
15 identity and the amount of the GABA  
16 receptors and the GABA in those  
17 individuals as a result of the genetic  
18 makeup, or is there a different mechanism  
19 that explains the variability, Doctor?

20 MR. MANSINGHANI: Object to  
21 form.

22 A. I don't know the answer to that  
23 question. I know that there are genetic  
24 differences. I don't know whether it is  
25 related to the makeup of the GABA receptor



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2 or something else.

3 Q. But if it is related to the  
4 makeup of the GABA receptor or the amount  
5 of GABA, individuals may also have  
6 different ceilings on the effect of  
7 midazolam. Correct?

8 A. I don't know that you can make  
9 that extrapolation. So, I am sorry, I am  
10 not going to agree with that.

11 Q. You don't know one way or the  
12 other?

13 A. I do not.

14 Q. Let's go to the Glass reference,  
15 please -- oh, let's go to your report,  
16 Doctor, at page 7 -- paragraph 7, rather.  
17 There is a graph here.

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You know the graph I am talking  
20 about that graphs anesthetic concentration  
21 versus percent of patients responding? Do  
22 you remember that?

23 A. Yes, I do.

24 MR. MANSINGHANI: Pilar, we can  
25 see your screen along with the live

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2 of midazolam for the appendectomy, but I  
3 wouldn't need to use a lot of vecuronium.

4 MR. STRONSKI: Thank you, sir.  
5 I think my time is up.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

7 MR. MANSINGHANI: I do not have  
8 any direct.

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off  
10 the record at 7:55 p.m. Eastern Time.  
11 This concludes today's testimony given  
12 by Dr. Joseph F. Antognini. The total  
13 number of media units used was 7 and  
14 will be retained by Winter Reporting,  
15 a Veritext company.

16 [TIME NOTED: 7:56 p.m.]

17

18

19 DR. JOSEPH ANTOGNINI

20

21 SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO  
22 BEFORE ME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY  
23 OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

24

25 \_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC

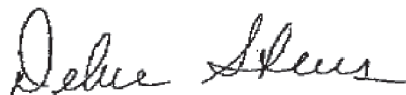
CERTIFICATION

I, DEBRA STEVENS, a Notary Public for  
and within the State of New York, do  
hereby certify:

That the witness whose testimony as  
herein set forth, was duly sworn by me;  
and that the within transcript is a true  
record of the remote testimony given by  
said witness.

I further certify that I am not  
related to any of the parties to this  
action by blood or marriage, and that I am  
in no way interested in the outcome of  
this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto  
set my hand this 9th day of February,  
2021.



DEBRA STEVENS, RPR-CRR

## WITNESS ERRATA SHEET

CASE NAME: Glossip v. Chandler

DATE OF DEPOSITION: January 28, 2021

WITNESS NAME: DR. JOSEPH ANTOGNINI

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DR. JOSEPH ANTOGNINI

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO  
BEFORE ME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY  
OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure

Rule 30

(e) Review By the Witness; Changes.

(1) Review; Statement of Changes. On request by the deponent or a party before the deposition is completed, the deponent must be allowed 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which:

(A) to review the transcript or recording; and

(B) if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement listing the changes and the reasons for making them.

(2) Changes Indicated in the Officer's Certificate. The officer must note in the certificate prescribed by Rule 30(f)(1) whether a review was requested and, if so, must attach any changes the deponent makes during the 30-day period.

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